

SELLING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held remotely on Thursday 15th October at 18:00 hours by video conference

Present: Cllr Andrew Bowles (Chair), Cllr Kevin Hobson, Cllr Sue Henderson, Cllr Andrew Day, Cllr Amanda Saunders, Cllr David Woollett and Wendy Gregory (Clerk)
Ward Cllr Gould **plus 5 members of the public.**

10.20.01 Welcome and apologies for absence
None

10.20.02 Declarations of interests and dispensations
Cllrs had no interests to declare.

10.20.03 Items to be taken in a private session
No items were required to be taken in private session

10.20.04 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting
Resolved: The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 17th September 2020 were approved by all.

10.20.05 Clerk's Report
A representative from Kent Highways has advised that Selling would not be added to the primary route for gritting but that it is being considered as a priority for a secondary route. A map showing the areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty within the parish is being sought. Permission to publish maps of the Conservation Areas for Selling have been requested and the Public Rights of Way Kent have been contacted with a request to provide maps for the website.
The SLCC Clerk's Conference is taking place as a virtual event this week and is working well.
Resolved: The Clerk's report was received.

10.20.06 Co-option of a Parish Councillor
Resolved: It was agreed that the introductory letter from the applicant, would be distributed to Parish Councillors for consideration at the next meeting.
Action: The Clerk to add this item to the next Agenda.

10.20.07 Open Forum
Ward Cllr Gould reported that Councillors are still trying to accelerate completion of the Local Plan to get it approved before the new housing targets are applied and the broader changes to the planning system. The bio-diversity report has been received which will feed

into the local plan. This identifies what the current base-line is and developers will be required to improve on this. Cllr Bowles has published his report and is currently working on appeals for home transport matters.

10.20.08 Matters resolved under the scheme of temporary delegation under LGA72s101

None

10.20.09 Financial matters included under the scheme of temporary delegation

None

10.20.10 Financial matters

a) Bank Account Balances and Reconciliation

Current Account

Opening Balance as at the last meeting	£14,417.90
Plus Receipts	6,590.00
Less Payments	£1,344.71
Closing Balance	£19,663.19

Reserve Account

Opening Balance as at the last meeting	£5,214.93
Plus interest 30 April	.86
Plus interest 29 May	.83
Closing Balance	£5,216.62

Less payments not yet cashed £274.84

Totals as of 1st October 2020 £24,604.97

Resolved: The bank account balances and reconciliation were approved by all

b) Accounts for Payment

- i) Clerks salary £569.83 paid by BACs and expenses for September 20 £119.74
- ii) Streetlights £51.00

Resolved: The accounts were approved for payment

c) KALC Clerk's Conference

Resolved: To pay 50% of the cost of the KALC Clerk's Conference £25 + VAT

d) Grant applications

A discussion took place about the current grant application process and the application form.

Resolved: The Clerk to provide an updated template for the grant application form and criteria document, prior to the next meeting

10.20.11 Planning Applications

Application ref: 20/503977/Full

Application for a new outbuilding and installation of a swimming pool with a pool house at Brookes Croft, Vicarage Lane

Resolved: No objection

Action: The Clerk to update the planning portal immediately

Application ref: 20/504616/LBC

Application for internal and external alterations in connection with conversion of existing outbuilding to create an annexe

Resolved: No objection

Action: The Clerk to update the planning portal

Application to divert ZR408 a Public Footpath

Notice has been given of an application to move the above footpath

Resolved: No objection

Action: The Clerk to send the response to the Planning Inspectorate

10.20.12 Selling Parish Council's response to Covid-19

Cllr Hobson gave an update to the meeting. Mis-information has become of concern to the government. The strategy of the Parish Council website remains the same, to have the most up-to-date information, all from Government sources and to make it known that we are happy to print any material for those members of the community who don't have access to the internet. The new Community Champions program is now on our website and social media. This is about giving out the key Covid-19 information helping to keep people safe. The Kent Resilience Forum have asked for a table to be updated to enable them to collate and report on all the actions being taken by Local Councils. Cllr Hobson was thanked for his efforts on the work done in response to Covid-19.

10.20.13 Law and Order

Cllr Day noted the report provided by the PCSO showed 2 crimes and that crime numbers available online and for the same period, are higher and therefore the Parish Council may not be receiving a true picture. Other statistics found that the crime rate for Selling is 5 per 1,000 of population. Cllr Bowles raised concern that we haven't had any face-to-face engagement with the PCSO for many months.

Action: Cllr Hobson to discuss the lack of police presence at meetings at the KALC meeting

Action: The Clerk to request that the PCSO attends a Parish Council meeting

Action: Cllr Bowles to raise the matter with the Police and Crime Commissioner

10.20.14 Action for Insects Plan

Bethany Pateman, a representative from Kent Wildlife Trust gave an interesting, informative and engaging presentation on the initiative for 'Action for Insects'; a nationwide campaign. A question and answer session followed. Bethany was thanked by Cllr Bowles on behalf of the Council and advised that she would receive updates on the progress of this project.

Cllr Hobson reported that this initiative is already being talked about locally and will soon be publicised on the website and social media. There are complimentary schemes being run by the Borough Council and County Council and resources from all three layers of government are to be engaged.

Next steps: To identify areas and try to build joined-up corridors. To take photographs to keep a log of progress.

10.20.15 Highways

Cllr Day expressed concern at the lack of progress on the Highways Improvement Plan. Cllr Bowles advised that work on HIP's may be held up because of work from the Government's Covid-19 schemes.

Action: Cllr Bowles to follow up with the Cabinet member.

10.20.16 Planting of the rowan tree

A discussion took place about the logistics of the actual planting and Cllr Hobson said it was important not to lose sight that this tree planting was planned to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of VE and VJ Day and if possible to involve those in the Parish who were alive on VE and VJ day.

Resolved: To invite residents who were alive on VE and VJ Day, to gather at a pre-determined time on Sunday 29th November to take a few photographs and dedicate the tree in memory of those who gave their lives and service to the Country. This to be followed by light refreshments in the White Lion.

Action: Cllr Henderson to provide the Clerk with the names of the residents to be invited. The Clerk to liaise with the Swire Trust gardening team to do the planting of the tree prior to the weekend of the 28th November. Cllr Bowles to speak to the Vicar to establish a time for the gathering.

10.20.17 Councillor reports

Cllr Saunders attended the Green Grid Swale meeting and raised the matter of the problems, discussed at previous Parish Council meetings, in Perry Wood and actions have been promised to be taken. Cllr Bowles thanked Cllr Saunders for raising this matter and for attending.

Cllr Henderson advised that a meeting had taken place with one of the suppliers of the proposed new play equipment and is expecting to be able to send all of the paperwork for the quotes to claim the S106 monies fairly

soon. There is some ground work that needs to be completed before the play area can be re-opened.

10.20.18 Correspondence

Nothing to discuss

10.20.19 Items to be placed on the next Agenda:

Covid-19

Action for Insects

Grant applications

10.20.20 The next meeting will be held by video conference on Thursday 19th November at 18:00

The meeting closed at 20:02 hours

Signed.....

Date